Encouraging “the means of education”

The words over Angell Hall proclaim a “fundamental commitment of the University of Michigan, one we’ve held for almost 201 years,” said Martin Philbert, Provost of the University, in remarks at the Cook Family Foundation’s 2018 scholarship awards dinner. This year, 20 high school students from the greater Shiawassee County region received scholarships to the University and will be enrolling this fall.

“A key element of the University’s success is attracting outstanding students,” noted the Provost, the chief executive officer of the University. The Cook Family Foundation works with the University to recruit and support top students from ten area high schools. Foundation scholarships combine with outstanding financial aid from the University to make Michigan one of the most affordable universities in the state, especially for lower income students.

The Go Blue Guarantee is part of a commitment to ensure that all Michigan residents enrolled in the University have sufficient financial aid. Free tuition is offered to any student from a family earning less than $65,000 and the University provides significant assistance to most middle-income families, often in conjunction with scholarships, work study, and other assistance.

For more information, visit goblueguarantee.umich.edu
Shiawassee Scholars Program in its 19th Year

With funding from the Cook Family Foundation, the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District (SRESD) supports the area’s most academically talented students in their high school careers.

The Shiawassee Scholars program recognizes eighth grade students by their performance on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test), a test designed for high school juniors. The top 52 scorers from the Shiawassee County area, who chose to enroll full-time in one of eight public high schools, are eligible to become Shiawassee Scholars.

The Shiawassee Scholars are eligible to apply for scholarships for summer and school-year academic enrichment programs, are given counseling support, and are all invited to spend three days on the campus of the University of Michigan. The goal of these efforts is to inspire and qualify these students for admittance to top colleges and merit-based scholarships.

For more information on the program, contact Renee Dotson at the SRESD at dotson@sresd.org, 989-743-3471 or visit the Programs & Services section of their website at sresd.org

Shiawassee Scholars 2018 Inductees
Graduating Class of 2022

Byron
Ella Coulter
Abigail Franzmeier
Caleb Joslin
Rachel Reed
Anya Wasilenski

Corunna
Stephen Bender
Aliyah Bentley
Claire Buckley
Abigail Colborn
Lucas Cunningham
Brock Herrick
Alyssa Kenyon
Colin Lavery
Collin Munro
Carson Reed
Vanessa Zettle

Durand
Jade Garske
Zachary Hinojosa

Laingsburg
Kezzie Dietz
Grant Goetschy
Ella Kay
Reece Kramer
Alyse Rowley
Zachary Slider
Nichole Steffens
Ethan West

New Lothrop
Hannah Beaucamp
Ethan Brunner
Isabel Henige
Chalea Herron
Dillan Morell
Makenzi Tallon
Jason Weber
Madison Wheeler

Morrice
Adrianna Monear

Owosso
Kendall Anderson
Aaron Jafri
Victor Jones
Harrison Ketchum
Kevin Laskowski
David Neese
Alexander Popovitch
Samantha Thayer
Kyra Waldner

Perry
Ella Kloeckner
Jack Lamb
Grace O’Neill
Lillian Warren

St. Paul
Ellie Feldpausch
Jillian Klaver
Justin Svarc
Casmiera Thorman
Tyson Moore Awarded Bruce & Jackie Cook Scholarship

Every year, Bruce & Jackie Cook, separate from the Foundation, provide a four-year, full tuition scholarship to a top student from the Shiawassee County area. This year, Tyson Moore from Corunna was recognized with a scholarship for his academic achievements, leadership abilities, and potential for success.

Tyson is the son of Michael and Jennifer Moore, and plans to pursue a major in biochemistry with the goal of becoming a medical researcher. At Corunna High School he was a member of the concert and marching bands, and was a drum major for two years. He is an accomplished member of the swim team, and has served as captain and lifeguard, and is a proud member of the National Honor Society.

His swim coach, Cameron Nellis, observed “He’s a morally, ethically sound individual, he works hard, he’s smart, he cares for other people.”

Brendan Dewley Is Donald Cook Scholarship Winner

Brendan Dewley, Owosso High School senior, is this year’s recipient of the Donald Cook Scholarship.

Brendan has been the vice president of the student government at OHS for two years, and is a member of the quiz bowl team and National Honor Society. He has played tennis and worked on the robotics team, and is employed at Bob Evans restaurant. He is the son of Josh and Lynnette Dewley and will be looking to study communications, political science and social change at the University of Michigan. Potential career paths include being a television writer, journalist or possibly a lawyer. “I am very grateful for everything the Cooks have done,” said Dewley. “It’s going to put me at ease knowing I have their support.”

On Their Way to U of M

This year 20 of the leaders and best from nine area high schools have enrolled at the University of Michigan.

Byron
Olivia Howard
Ian Wilsdon

Corunna
Ramneet Chauhan
Christopher Mars
Michael Miller, Jr.
Tyson Moore

Durand
Nicholas Mazzara

Laingsburg
Ryan Kingsbury
Matthew Nickols
Emma Smith

Morrice
Spencer Wood

New Lothrop
Michael Kieffer
Rebekah Riley

Owosso
Jake Bacigal
Abigail Brainerd
Daniel Clevenger
Brendan Dewley
Damien Moore, Jr.

Ovid-Elsie
Kathryn Beeman

Perry
Trent Ivey
Foundation and United Way Team Up for Preschool Scholarships

The first step toward academic success for any student begins before kindergarten. As psychologists, educators, physicians and parents know, learning begins at birth. While much of brain development is nurtured by the family, preschool and other formal early learning experiences can play an important role. Recognizing this reality, early childhood education has long been a priority of the Cook Family Foundation.

Earlier this year, the Foundation provided a $10,000 grant for preschool scholarships to Shiawassee Great Start. United Way of Genesee and Shiawassee County have now provided $16,000 in additional support. Scholarships are available to families with financial need to attend preschool centers operated by public schools in Shiawassee County, or one of several private preschools that meet Great Start quality standards.

Great Start is a collaborative program of the Shiawassee Regional Education Service District and several social service agencies. United Way of Genesee County now serves Shiawassee and has made early childhood literacy one of its priorities. For more information on preschool scholarships, contact Tara Agnew 989-725-2581.